

**IN THE CLAIMS:**

1. (original) A biaxially oriented polyester film wherein a microscopic Raman crystallization index  $I_c$  measured in the thickness direction of said film is in a range of  $8\text{ cm}^{-1}$  to  $15\text{ cm}^{-1}$  and a difference between the maximum value and the minimum value of said  $I_c$  is  $1\text{ cm}^{-1}$  or less.

2. (original) The biaxially oriented polyester film according to claim 1, wherein a difference between the maximum value and the minimum value of a microscopic Raman crystallization index  $I_c$  measured in the plane direction of said film is  $1\text{ cm}^{-1}$  or less.

3. (currently amended) A biaxially oriented polyester film wherein a relative power ( $I_{TD}^{10}$ ) of ~~spatial frequency (1/mm)~~ spatial frequency 10 (1/mm) measured along the transverse direction of at least one surface of said polyester film having been heat treated at  $100\text{ }^{\circ}\text{C}$  for 24 hours is in a range of -25 to 0 dB.

4. (original) The biaxially oriented polyester film according to claim 3, wherein a difference in intensity ( $I_{TD}^{10-200}$ ) between relative powers of spatial frequencies 10 and 200 (1/mm) measured

along the transverse direction of at least one surface is in a range of 5 to 20 dB.

5. (currently amended) The biaxially oriented polyester film according to ~~claim 1 or 3~~ claim 1, wherein the sum of Young's modulus in the longitudinal direction and Young's modulus in the transverse direction is in a range of 11,000 to 15,000 MPa.

6. (currently amended) The biaxially oriented polyester film according to ~~claim 1 or 3~~ claim 1, wherein polyester is polyethylene terephthalate.

7. (currently amended) The biaxially oriented polyester film according to ~~claim 1 or 3~~ claim 1, wherein said film is used as a base film for a magnetic recording medium according to a linear recording system.

8. (currently amended) The biaxially oriented polyester film according to ~~claim 1 or 3~~ claim 1, wherein said film is used as a base film for a magnetic recording medium of a double layer metal coated digital recording type.

9. (new) The biaxially oriented polyester film according to claim 3, wherein the sum of Young's modulus in the longitudinal direction and Young's modulus in the transverse direction is in a range of 11,000 to 15,000 MPa.

10. (new) The biaxially oriented polyester film according to claim 3, wherein polyester is polyethylene terephthalate.

11. (new) The biaxially oriented polyester film according to claim 3, wherein said film is used as a base film for a magnetic recording medium according to a linear recording system.

12. (new) The biaxially oriented polyester film according to claim 3, wherein said film is used as a base film for a magnetic recording medium of a double layer metal coated digital recording type.